

Minutes Committee for Youth, Families and Community September 15, 2008

Minutes of the Committee for Youth, Families and Community held on September 15, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Tempe Public Library Tempe Connections Program Room, 3500 S. Rural Road 2nd Floor, Tempe, Arizona.

MEMBERS Present:

Vic Cordts, Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley
Barb Fries, Tempe Elementary School District
Samantha Heinrich, Kyrene School District
Randy Lazar, Tempe Union High School District
Trish Miller, Community Bridges
Abraham Rosales, Chicanos Por La Causa
Lynette Stonefeld, Tempe/Kyrene Communities In Schools
Mark Werschting, Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department

MEMBERS Absent:

Rebecca Bond, Tempe Connections
Ginae Klasek, Peer Solutions
Sandra McNally, EMPACT—SPC
Joe Spracale, Tempe Impact Education Foundation

City Staff Present:

Kathy Berzins, Community Services – Social Services
Tim Cox, Community Services - Social Services
Rick Rager, Tempe Municipal Court
Nancy Rodriguez, Tempe Municipal Court
Brandon Banks, Tempe Police Department

Guests Present:

Mickie Berry, ETAP - Empowering Teens and Parents Program
Elena Hernandez, Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department

Meeting convened at 9:33 a.m.

Agenda Item 1: Kathy Berzins called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes from August 18, 2008 Meeting

The minutes from June 16, 2008 were reviewed.

MOTION: Trish Miller motioned to approve the minutes.

SECOND: Samantha Heinrich seconded the motion.

COMMITTEE CONSENSUS: Minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 3 – 2008 Juvenile Accountability Block Grant

Mickie Berry, ETAP – Empowering Teens and Parents (ETAP) Program provided an overview of the 2008 JABG funding and the ETAP program which has been funded by previous JABG funds. Parenting workshops and life skills groups are provided at no cost to participants. Eligibility requires males only referral from the Maricopa County Juvenile Court who reside in or attend a school within the boundaries of the City of Tempe.

- 1) The City was not originally eligible for a JABG grant as they did not reach the \$10,000 threshold. However, the Town of Gilbert was willing to combine their funds with the City to reach the \$10,000 threshold to receive funds. This is a two year grant beginning October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2010.
- 2) The original ETAP program model was developed for the Maricopa County Juvenile Court incorporating Adlerian psychological principles in strengthening parenting strategies and improving parent-child relationships toward preventing recidivism.
- 3) ETAP is an eight week program in 90 minute increments. Parents and youth attend together working in separate groups.
- 4) Parents receive psycho-education regarding parenting strategies and techniques.
- 5) Youth participants receive Life Skills, communication and conflict resolution skills training.

MOTION: Lynette Stonefeld motioned to approve applying for 2008 JABG funds to continue the Empowering Teens and Parents Program.

SECOND: Samantha Heinrich seconded the motion.

COMMITTEE CONSENSUS: Motion was approved.

Agenda Item 4– Presentation: Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department

- 1) **Elena Hernandez and Mark Werschting, Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department** reported on types of referrals they receive, overview of current funding, and support programs needed for this client population.
 - Their zip code areas of responsibility cover 85281, 85282, and some of 85283.
 - They are seeing primarily referrals for truancy, curfew violations, criminal damage, domestic violence, and alcohol / marijuana / “shrooms” / “Ecstasy” abuse.
 - Funding is at an all time low, with programs and staff positions being discontinued.
 - Probation officers are in need of good referrals to family-based programs that incorporate the entire family. There is a shortage in availability of programs that focus on female juvenile offenders, especially programs that address pregnancy issues. Discussion was generated toward leveraging and coordinating existing programs and resources to meet these needs.

Agenda Item 5 – Communities For Kids Update

- 1) **Lynette Stonefeld, Communities in Schools** reported Estella Blanc is doing an awesome job as the Communities for Kids Coordinator. She will be offering four sessions this fall, two sessions at Nevitt, and one each at Holdeman and Aguilar Elementary school sites. This is a 6 – 8 week program providing parents with information to effectively prepare their pre-

school children to start Kindergarten. Childcare and literacy resources are provided at no cost. Participants receive a graduation certificate from Mayor Hugh Hallman.

Agenda Item 6 – Magellan Prevention Grant Update

- 1) **Lynette Stonefeld, Communities in School** provided an update on the City's Magellan Prevention Grant.
 - Lynette announced that a Steering Committee is being formed to address substance abuse and dependence issues, underage drinking, and drug and alcohol abuse prevention. The first meeting of the steering committee will be November 3rd, and the first Tuesday every month thereafter through April 7, 2009. They are seeking any community member who is a stakeholder in this issue, and can commit to 12 hours over the next six months. The planning process is to be completely community driven, and the steering committee is charged with developing a community plan. The meeting will be held in the Program Room in the basement of the Tempe Public Library. They have hired a facilitator and are planning focus groups to solicit input from youth in the community toward developing the best plan.

Agenda Item 7 – Other Grant and Program Updates

- 1) **Abraham Rosales, Chicanos Por La Causa** announced their agency has Arizona Department of Health Services and Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention grants pending to fund gang and teen pregnancy prevention. He highlighted two programs at Tempe and McClintock high schools identifying Latino male and female youth teaching lifeskills, interpersonal communication, and parenting education based on best practices.
- 2) **Trish Miller, Community Bridges** announced that they have received SACA funding to provide staff training, and parenting education at the Pappas charter school.

Agenda Item 8 – Announcements

- 1) **Vic Cordts, Boys and Girls Club** announced that programming for youth and teens is ongoing at their site, with “wall-to-wall kids”, and drug and alcohol prevention content. He is encouraging anyone who knows of a child who would benefit from their programming to contact them at their website on www.tempe.gov.
- 2) **Lynette Stonefeld, Communities In Schools** announced that Natalie Swanson with the Kids Care Program is leaving her position to move to California with her husband's employment. The state has pulled back funding for this program, but Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA) is seeking supplemental funding to keep this program in place.
- 3) Discussion was generated around compiling data from various sources such as the Maricopa County Juvenile Court, Tempe Police Department Crime Analysis Unit, Tempe Union High School District Discipline Logs, Tempe Municipal Court Juvenile Violations filings, to get an accurate picture of what is happening “on the ground” in our community. The Maricopa County Juvenile Court, the Tempe Police Department, Tempe Municipal Court and Tempe Union High School District committed to compile data from their respective resources over the past two years beginning January 2006 to present. This information will be discussed in future meetings.

Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items

- Presentation by “First Things First”
- Presentation by CPS
- Please contact Tim Cox for future program presentations.
- Please contact Kim Bauman for future agenda items.

The committee's next meeting will be on **October 20, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Prepared by: Tim Cox

Kathy Berzins, Chair

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